

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3123

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to remedy problems caused by a collapsed drainage tunnel in Leadville, Colorado, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 8, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to remedy problems caused by a collapsed drainage tunnel in Leadville, Colorado, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. LEADVILLE MINE DRAINAGE TUNNEL REMEDI-**
4 **ATION.**

5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the
6 “Leadville Mine Drainage Tunnel Remediation Act of
7 2009”.

1 (b) TUNNEL REMEDIATION.—The Reclamation
2 Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 (Pub-
3 lic Law 102–575) is amended as follows:

4 (1) By striking section 705.

5 (2) In section 708(a)—

6 (A) by striking “(a)” and inserting
7 “(a)(1)”;

8 (B) by striking “The Secretary shall have”
9 and inserting “Except as provided by paragraph
10 (2), the Secretary shall have”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(2) The Secretary shall participate in the implemen-
13 tation of the operable unit 6 remedy for the California
14 Gulch Superfund Site, as such remedy is defined in the
15 Environmental Protection Agency’s 2003 Record of Deci-
16 sion for such operable unit, by—

17 “(A) treating water behind any blockage or
18 bulkhead in the Leadville Mine Drainage Tunnel, in-
19 cluding surface water diverted into the Tunnel
20 workings as part of the remedy; and

21 “(B) managing and maintaining the mine pool
22 behind such blockage or bulkhead at a level that pre-
23 cludes surface runoff and releases and minimizes the
24 potential for tunnel failure due to excessive water
25 pressure in the tunnel.”.

1 (3) In section 708(f), by striking “and 708”
2 and inserting “, 708, and 709”.

3 (4) By adding at the end of title VII the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“SEC. 709. TUNNEL MAINTENANCE.**

6 “The Secretary shall take such steps to repair or
7 maintain the structural integrity of the Leadville Mine
8 Drainage Tunnel (LMDT) as may be necessary in order
9 to prevent tunnel failure and to preclude uncontrolled re-
10 lease of water from any portion of the tunnel.”.

11 (5) In the table of sections contained in section
12 2—

13 (A) by striking the item relating to section
14 705; and

15 (B) by inserting after the item relating to
16 section 708 the following new item:

“Sec. 709. Tunnel maintenance.”.

○